STOP BY!
Contact us to learn more about CWIT Scholarships, UMBC Inspiring Scholars Days, arranging an information session at your high school, and our Bits and Bytes overnight program for high school girls.

Stop by the CWIT office (ITE 452) to learn more about the CWIT Affiliates Program. Connect with members of the CWIT community through the CWIT Student Council and visit the CWIT website for our calendar of events: www.cwit.umbc.edu.

CWIT STAFF:
Dr. Penny Rheingans, Director, rheingan@umbc.edu
Dr. Susan Martin, Associate Director, susan@umbc.edu
Ms. Katie Glasser, Assistant Director, kglasser@umbc.edu

CWIT 2010-2011 STUDENT COUNCIL
(L to R) Alex Markowski (C7, Computer Science), Amy Chou (C7, Chemical Engineering), Thomas Davis (SITE, Computer Science), Paridhi Jain (C6, Information Systems), Shreya Mohan (C8, Information Systems), Andrea Robinson (C6, Computer Engineering),
CWIT students are pursuing Bachelor’s degrees in Computer Science, Computer Engineering, Chemical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Information Systems, and Business Technology Administration.

CWIT GOALS:
1. SUSTAINING VIBRANT SCHOLAR PROGRAMS: CWIT Scholars participate in academic, professional development, and personal enrichment activities to enhance their success and increase retention.

2. FOSTERING SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY: We build community through the CWIT Affiliates Program and other outreach to women in IT and engineering majors at UMBC. Our goal is to increase the success of women in IT and engineering majors by engaging and connecting students with one another, faculty, campus resources and industry representatives.

3. CONDUCTING HIGH SCHOOL OUTREACH: CWIT’s Bits and Bytes program brings high school girls to campus overnight to learn about ITE careers and COEIT majors. CWIT staff also do high school visits and participate in UMBC Admissions events to educate girls about opportunities in engineering and IT.

4. IMPROVING THE LEARNING AND GENDER CLIMATE IN COEIT: CWIT conducts and shares the results of a climate survey with academic departments to improve the student experience. CWIT also partners with faculty conducting funded research on topics related to the education and retention of women in engineering and IT fields.

SCHOLARS PROGRAM
Each year CWIT awards approximately 12-15 CWIT Scholarships to freshmen women and men in information technology and engineering majors. CWIT Scholars have access to multiple supports to enhance their academic success and personal development. They participate in monthly one-on-one meetings with the Center’s staff, study groups, career development events, and are involved in service activities in the community. A mentoring program and a dedicated floor in a residence hall, known as a Living Learning Community, also support the success of Scholars.

Application deadlines and information can be found at www.umbc.edu/undergraduate/learn/cwit.html.

FOSTERING A SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY FOR ALL WOMEN IN ITE MAJORS AT UMBC
CWIT’s expanded Affiliates Program selects and provides structured academic, personal, and professional development support to approximately 15-20 incoming women (and men) in COEIT each year. In addition, the goal of CWIT’s ongoing outreach to all women in COEIT is to increase their knowledge of and participation in relevant CWIT, COEIT and campus events. CWIT staff and the CWIT Student Council collaborate with other engineering student organizations, Career Services, The Shriver Center, and other partners to plan social and professional development events.

FEATURED STUDENT AND ALUMNA
Lilian Johnson ’13
Lily came to UMBC already immersed in the CWIT community thanks to a retreat held for incoming scholars. CWIT staff and students create a community full of support, empowerment and scholarship, one that welcomed Lily with open arms. Currently a Chemical Engineering major, she is the President of the Society of Women Engineers, an organization that provides outreach in the local area, such as bringing engineering in a hands-on way to high school and middle school students. As Lily decides where her career is headed, CWIT is giving her the community, hands-on research, tools and network to reach the career of her dreams.

Lindsay Cox ’06
As a Senior Systems Analyst for Erickson Living, Lindsay credits CWIT for bringing her to UMBC and giving her the confidence to pursue her dream career. An active alumna, she attends CWIT alumni picnics and participates in Scholarship Selection Days. When considering where to attend college, Lindsay choose UMBC because the CWIT scholars program offered a community that no other university could offer. CWIT helped her build friendships, professional experiences and networking that resulted in a successful career in Information Systems and a life-long set of friends.

Fast Facts
90% = Retention Rate of Scholars in a College of Engineering and Information Technology Major

3.5/4.0 = Average Cumulative College GPA of CWIT Scholars.

100% of all first-year scholars live on the CWIT Living Learning Community

52% of all Scholars are majoring in Computer Science, Computer Engineering, or Information Systems

CWIT graduates are successfully employed in private industry and public positions such as:
• Deloitte
• General Electric
• IBM
• Lockheed Martin
• Northrop Grumman
• NSA
• Raytheon Solipsys
• Other companies and government agencies in the region

CWIT graduates also enrolled in master’s and Ph.D. programs at Johns Hopkins University, École polytechnique fédérale de Lausannein, UMBC and others.
UMBC PARTNERING RESOURCES

Career Services
To learn more about the comprehensive services offered to employers interested in hiring COEIT and UMBC graduates and alumni visit www.careers.umbc.edu, or call 410-455-2216.

The Shriver Center
To learn more about how to post and fill internships with COEIT undergraduate and graduate students visit: http://shrivercenter.umbc.edu or call 410-455-2493.

The Office of Institutional Advancement
For information about how to financially support the mission of CWIT, COEIT, and UMBC. Contact Ms. Allison Jones at 410-455-6279.

HAVE OTHER IDEAS?
For more detailed information about connecting with CWIT Scholars, sponsoring events, or CWIT program outcomes and accomplishments, please contact:

Dr. Susan Martin
susan@umbc.edu,
phone: (410) 455-3109
www.cwit.umbc.edu

Learn more about ongoing opportunities to connect with CWIT Scholars, Affiliates and women in ITE majors at UMBC.

Current opportunities to get involved with the CWIT Scholars program are listed inside >>
PROVIDE A SPEAKER AND/OR REFRESHMENTS FOR A CWIT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT EVENT

CWIT is always looking for engaging guest speakers who can share industry and career path information with students. A calendar of events is developed for Scholars each semester to increase their understanding of careers, industries, and employer expectations.

BECOME AN INDUSTRY MENTOR

All CWIT Scholars and Affiliates are connected with an industry mentor beginning in their junior year. The mentoring commitment is for one academic year. Mentors are expected to communicate at least monthly with their protégée to provide valuable career advice and networking opportunities. Mentor applications can be completed anytime and matches are made each summer for the upcoming academic year. We are looking to increase the number of mentors so that Affiliates can be matched with Industry Mentors as well.

SPONSOR THE SCHOLARS’ RETREAT

Each August our incoming freshman CWIT Scholars participate in a three day team-building and success-enhancing retreat. Activities focus on the transition to college and building a foundation for success in an ITE major. Scholars learn about campus resources and begin to build their support network of students, faculty and staff. We welcome corporate sponsors for this event.

SPONSOR AND PARTNER TO BROADEN THE STEM PIPELINE

K-12 OUTREACH: CWIT’s outreach activities are focused primarily on reaching Maryland high school girls. Our goal is to increase girls’ knowledge of and enthusiasm for ITE careers and UMBC as a female friendly destination for girls interested in engineering and IT. We welcome corporate sponsorship to enable us to expand the STEM pipeline by reaching more girls.

SPONSOR THE AFFILIATES RETREAT

Each summer CWIT’s incoming Scholars participate in a retreat designed to jumpstart their success. We would love to expand and offer a similar opportunity to more women (and supportive men) in ITE majors. We welcome corporate sponsorship for this event.

SPONSOR OUR OVERNIGHT PROGRAM FOR HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS

Each spring, approximately 20 girls are selected from over 80 applicants for CWIT’s Bits and Bytes program. Participants compete in either an engineering or IT design contest, meet current Scholars, stay in the residence halls, and learn about UMBC engineering and IT majors. We welcome corporate sponsors to expand this program! Evaluations from the 2009 events speak for themselves. The percentage of students rating their knowledge about engineering and IT opportunities as Excellent or Good increased from 17% before to 81% after the two-day program. 88 percent said they would recommend the program to a friend.

SPONSOR A STUDENT ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP

Sponsoring a scholarship helps ensure that CWIT and UMBC can continue to offer unique opportunities for leadership to current and future academically talented students. Companies can also help these students have outstanding potential for future leadership and employment opportunities.

SPONSOR A STUDENT ACADEMIC CONFERENCE

Help CWIT students attend the Grace Hopper Celebration of Women in Computing Conference and other regional conferences throughout the year. These conferences expose students to collaboration, networking, mentoring and increased visibility for the contributions of women in computing and technology.

SUPPORT INSPIRING SCHOLARS DAYS

Help us introduce more high school students to ITE majors and careers. Each year, groups of high school students come to the UMBC campus to learn about STEM majors and UMBC opportunities. These events are a collaboration between CWIT and the Meyerhoff and Sherman Scholars Programs. We welcome corporate sponsorships for this event.